



News Release

For immediate release: January 6, 2015

(15-002)

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360-236-4074
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Chelan County

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Andrea L. Watson** (RN00173703) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract. In 2014 she was convicted of unlawful possession of a legend drug.

Clark County

In November 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program entered an agreement with chemical dependency professional **Matthew P. Eastman-Pittam** (CP60003457) that places his credential on probation for at least three years. Eastman-Pittam must undergo a psychosexual evaluation, complete a course in sexual harassment and sensitivity training, and pay a \$1,500 fine. Eastman-Pittam hugged one client, put his hand on her thigh, phoned and texted her for non-therapeutic reasons, told her he loved her, and invited her children to trick-or-treat at his home. He also hugged another client and made comments of a sexual nature about her appearance and/or body.

In November 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Debra A. Fisher** (NA00157096) with unprofessional conduct. Fisher allegedly worked as the resident manager at an adult family home. Charges say that Fisher took about \$20,000 from the adult family home's account and about \$45,000 from a resident's account. Fisher allegedly admitted to

keeping some of the resident's bank withdrawals for her own use, and taking money from the adult family home.

King County

In October 2014 the secretary of health denied a massage practitioner credential to **Ling Gao** (MA60383815), who doesn't meet the educational requirements.

In October 2014 the secretary of health denied a massage practitioner credential to **Shumin Wan** (MA60348390), who doesn't meet the educational requirements.

In October 2014 the secretary of health denied a massage practitioner credential to **Jian She Liu** (MA60161983), who doesn't meet the educational requirements.

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Elizabeth E. Betterton**, also known as Elizabeth Maughan (RN00165191), with unprofessional conduct. Betterton allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Kathleen Marie Naughton** (RN00117515, AP30003969, NT00000384) with unprofessional conduct. Naughton, who also has a naturopathic physician license, was charged in June 2014 by the Naturopathy Board with providing substandard exams to patients seeking medical marijuana authorizations.

In November 2014 the Medical Assistant and Nursing Assistant programs charged medical assistant-phlebotomist and certified nursing assistant **John H. Stephenson**, also known as Sena Yawo Vivie (PC60351378, NC10041477), with unprofessional conduct. Charges say he admitted that he applied for and received his licenses under a fictitious name, which came to light during a law enforcement investigation into his actions involving a patient. No criminal charges were filed as a result of that investigation. Stephenson hasn't responded to a Department of Health investigator's inquiry.

In November 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Joyce D. Taylor** (NA60243590) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Taylor was convicted of two counts of second-degree attempted theft and one count of first-degree criminal trespass.

In November 2014 the Chiropractic Commission ended probation for chiropractor **Mark T. Dang** (CH00033803).

Kitsap County

In November 2014 the Chiropractic Commission modified an agreement with chiropractor **Blake J. Wagner** (CH00003095) that gives him until September 16, 2015 to pay a \$1,000 fine, and to complete continuing education in boundaries and ethics. In September 2013 Wagner agreed to fulfill those requirements within one year. Wagner had asked a patient to lend him \$600, called her and went to her house. His license remains suspended.

Pierce County

In November 2014 the Marriage and Family Therapist Program modified an agreement with marriage and family therapist **Heidi Halsey** (LF00001125) to expand practice limitations imposed in a 2013 agreement.

Snohomish County

In November 2014 the Medical Commission entered an agreement with physician **Roger B. Olsson** (MD00015303). Olsson may no longer treat or prescribe opioids for chronic pain patients. He agreed to permanent limitations on prescribing opioids for acute pain and prescribing benzodiazepines for anxiety. Olsson may not treat family members and must complete a boundaries course. He must register with the Washington Prescription Management Program, undergo practice reviews, and pay a \$5,000 fine. Olsson violated the standard of care in treating multiple chronic pain patients, prescribed controlled substances instead of addressing the cause of the pain, and didn't adequately monitor patients. Olsson also prescribed medications for family members without keeping sufficient records.

Spokane County

In November 2014 the Medical Assistant Program charged certified medical assistant **Scott W. Chester** (CM60377189) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly called-in prescriptions for controlled substances under his mother's name eight times, picked up the filled prescriptions and kept the drugs for his own use.

Thurston County

In November 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program entered agreements with registered nursing assistant **Reena Rizal** (NA60081672) and certified nursing assistant **Bhakta Rizal** (NC10083983) that suspend their credentials for at least three years. Both Rizals worked at an adult family home that Bhakta Rizal owned and operated. A developmentally disabled woman who required extensive care became a patient at the facility. She had a history of pressure sores, but her skin was in good condition when she moved to the home. About six months after moving to the home, the patient was admitted to a hospital with severe pressure ulcers, and died about a month later.

Whatcom County

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Riley Elizabeth Keown** (RN60383822) with unprofessional conduct. She worked at a skilled nursing facility where she was the primary care nurse for a patient with multiple diagnoses, including dementia. Charges say lab tests showed the resident had a critically high level of an anticoagulant. Keown allegedly faxed the lab report to the patient's physician, but didn't call to make sure the physician knew about the lab report, and didn't attempt to follow-up with the physician. She had gotten no response by the time her shift ended. She did notify the oncoming nurse of the results.

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Cindy L. Mauler** (RN00095587) with unprofessional conduct. She was the resident care manager at a skilled nursing facility that treated a patient with multiple diagnoses, including dementia. Charges say lab tests showed the resident had a critically high level of an anticoagulant. Mauler didn't notify the patient's physician, didn't direct the primary care nurse to notify the physician, and didn't follow-up with the physician or other nurses.

In November 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Tina M. Brightwell** (RN00069951) with unprofessional conduct. She worked at a skilled nursing facility that treated a patient with multiple diagnoses, including dementia. Charges say lab tests showed the resident had a critically high level of an anticoagulant. The patient's physician ordered that the patient be given oral vitamin K, but the patient refused to take the vitamin orally. Brightwell sent a fax to the physician, but didn't call the physician or follow-up adequately.

In November 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Jennifer M. Hawk** (VA00057468) with unprofessional conduct. Hawk allegedly admitted coming to work at a pharmacy with a bottle of alcohol and taking at least one drink.

Yakima County

In November 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a registered medical assistant credential to **Crystal Violeta Cerda-Cortez** (MR60507292) and placed her on probation for at least two years. In 2011 Cerda-Cortez was convicted of two counts of second-degree robbery.

Out of State

Oregon: In November 2014 the Medical Commission entered an agreement with physician **John F. Lindberg** (MD00019767) that prohibits him from practicing in Washington until he completes a psychological evaluation, completes a substance abuse assessment, signs and complies with a substance abuse monitoring contract if required, and receives the commission's permission to resume practice. Oregon's Medical Board disciplined Lindberg after he admitted having sex with an underage prostitute.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).